

Remarks/Arguments

35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 - 10, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Burgan, "A Proposal for error control in SAME coded EAS and NWR," March 14, 1999 (hereinafter referred to as "Burgan").

It is respectfully asserted that Burgan fails to disclose:

"checking agreement of only said subset of the repeated data string elements,"

as described in currently amended claim 1.

Among the problems addressed by the present invention is the effect of errors in insignificant portions of a received data transmission on a reception verification algorithm that relies upon comparing multiple transmissions of the same data for checking consistency, such as the NOAA Weather Radio Specific Area Message Encoding ("NWR-SAME") system.

To address this problem, the present application discloses a method of disregarding insignificant portions of each copy of a received transmission before performing a consistency check amongst the transmissions. Thus, only inconsistencies in significant portions of the repeated transmissions will lead to a discarding of the transmission. If the significant portions of the repeated transmissions are identical, the transmission can be presumed valid. (Specification, page 2, line 7 through page 3, line 8)

Burgan proposes a change to the SAME message structure to "improve the message reliability by appending a four (Hexadecimal) character CRC-16 code to the end of the message. If the character at the end is something other than a dash and because the CRC-16 string does not match the present SAME pattern it would be rejected by present equipment as extraneous characters. New equipment would be able to recognize the CRC-16 and use it to validate the message." (Burgan, Section II, second paragraph)

Burgan does not teach a method of locating a subset of most significant data string elements or checking agreement only of that subset in repeated transmissions. Instead, Burgan proposes adding a cyclic redundancy check (CRC) to the transmitted string such that one individual transmission could be checked for accuracy against its own included CRC data. In fact, Burgan teaches away from making a comparison of transmissions, stating that the "requirement for two identical message validation could be dropped with an improvement in reliability and equipment simplicity." (Burgan, Section II, paragraph 4) Thus Burgan fails to disclose "checking agreement of only said subset of repeated data string elements," as described in currently amended claim 1.

Furthermore, the method of Burgan requires changes to the messages transmitted in a SAME system and new receivers that recognize the added CRC-16 code. Thus, Burgan fails to address the problem of reception of standard SAME messages that lack the proposed CRC-16 code.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that there is no 35 USC 112 enabling disclosure provided by Burgan which makes the present invention as claimed in currently amended claim 1 unpatentable. Since claims 2-10 are dependent from allowable independent claim 1, it is submitted that they too are allowable for at least the same reasons that independent claim 1 is allowable. Thus, it is further respectfully submitted that this rejection has been satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's representative at (609) 734-6804, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to
Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

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